

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A liquid crystal display (LCD) device comprising:

a panel unit including a LCD panel and a driver circuit for driving said LCD panel;

a backlight including a plurality of optical components consecutively mounted on said LCD panel;

a housing for receiving therein said panel unit and said backlight, said housing including a front housing member formed as a frame and at least one rear housing member that together support said panel unit and said backlight, said at least one rear unit covering lateral and rear sides of said backlight and said panel unit as a whole, said front housing member and said rear housing member being hingedly coupled together via a coupling structure.

2. (original) The LCD device according to claim 1, wherein said backlight includes an interface IC for transferring signals and a power source circuit for supplying electric power to a lamp in said backlight.

3. (previously presented) The LCD device according to claim 1, wherein said panel unit and said backlight is consecutively mounted on said front housing member, and said rear housing member is rotatable with respect to said front housing member from a first open position to permit assembly of the panel unit within the housing to a second closed position to cover said lateral and rear sides of said backlight and said panel unit.

4. (original) The LCD device according to claim 3, wherein said at least one rear housing member include a plurality of rear housing members coupled to respective edges of said front housing members.

5. (original) The LCD device according to claim 4, wherein said coupling structure includes a coupling member bent substantially at a right angle to allow a portion of said rear housing member to oppose said front housing member.

6. (previously presented) The LCD device according to claim 5, wherein said coupling member is formed as a separate piece that is attachable to said front and rear housing members.

7. (original) The LCD device according to claim 6, wherein said coupling member is made of soft plastics.

8. (previously presented) The LCD device according to claim 6, wherein said coupling member includes a hinge element having a reduced central portion.

9. (original) The LCD device according to claim 5, wherein said coupling member is attached onto said front and rear housing members by welding, bonding, insertion or screws.

10. (previously presented) The LCD device according to claim 5, wherein said coupling structure includes a pivot element and a slot formed on one and the other, respectively, of said front and rear housing members.

11. (previously presented) The LCD device according to claim 10, wherein said pivot element is formed as an integral part of said one of said front and rear housing members.

12. (original) The LCD device according to claim 5, wherein said coupling structure further includes a hook and a hook hold engaged with said hook.

13. (original) The LCD device according to claim 1, wherein said front housing member includes a first rib for aligning said panel unit with respect to said front housing member.

14. (original) The LCD device according to claim 13, wherein said front housing member includes a plurality of second ribs for aligning said components of said backlight with respect to said front housing member.

15. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a liquid crystal display (LCD) device comprising the steps of:

mounting a panel unit on a front housing member of a housing structure which includes said front housing member, a rear housing member and a coupling structure for rotatably coupling together said front housing member and said rear housing member, said front housing member and said rear housing member together support said panel unit;

consecutively mounting a plurality of components of a backlight on a rear side of said panel unit, said backlight having a function for irradiating said panel unit with a parallel ray;

rotating said rear housing member with respect to said front housing member for allowing said rear housing member to cover lateral and rear sides of said backlight and said panel unit as a whole.

16. (original) The method according to claim 15, wherein said moving step includes swiveling said rear housing member with respect to said front housing member.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein said coupling structure includes a coupling member, and said rotating step includes bending said coupling member.

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein said coupling structure includes a pivot element and a slot for receiving said pivot element, and said rotating step includes swiveling said rear housing member with respect to said front housing member.

19. (original) The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of mounting a circuit board on a rear side of said backlight before said moving step.

20. (currently amended) A liquid crystal display (LCD) device comprising:

a panel unit including a LCD panel and a driver circuit for driving said LCD panel;

a backlight mounted on said LCD panel; and

a housing for receiving therein said panel unit and said backlight, said housing including a front housing member formed as a substantially L-shaped frame and ~~at least one~~ two rear housing ~~member~~ members rotatably connected to said front housing member so as to cover lateral and rear sides of said backlight and said panel unit as a whole.